

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for returning an open window to an original position among a plurality of cascaded, open windows which are rendered on a display space, comprising the steps of:

generating a list which provides a front-to-back order of said plurality of cascaded, open windows and an indicator of whether each of said plurality of cascaded, open windows is currently in its respective original, cascaded position;

removing said open window from said original position;

rendering said open window at another location on said display space;

receiving, at a graphical interface, an indication that said open window is to be closed at said another location on said display space; and

returning said open window to said original position based upon said list.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of returning further comprises the steps of:

comparing an identifier of said open window with an identifier associated with each window in said list until a match occurs; and

placing said open window behind a window which is next in order in said list after said match occurs.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of placing said open window further comprises the step of:

placing said open window behind said window which is next in order in said list after said match occurs only if said window is currently in its respective original, cascaded position.

4 A method for placing a first open window behind a second open window in a first portion of a display space, comprising the steps of:

generating a list which indicates that said first open window is to be rendered behind said second open window when both said first and said second
5 windows are rendered in said first portion of said display space;

removing said first open window from behind said second open window;

rendering said first open window at a second portion of said display space;

10 closing said first open window at said second portion of said display space; and

placing said first open window behind said second open window in said first portion of said display space.

15 5. The method of claim 4, wherein a third open window is disposed in front of both said second open window and said first open window when rendered in said first portion of said display space, said method further comprising the steps of:

removing said second open window from said first portion of said display space;

20 rendering said second open window in another portion of said display space; and

placing said first open window behind said third open window in said first portion of said display space.

25 6. In a computer having a display, a system for returning an open window object to its original location relative to at least one other open window object, comprising:

a data structure for storing information associated with said open window object and said at least one other open window object including a relative
30 order of said open window object with respect to said at least one other open window object;

a display on which said open window object and said at least one other open window object are rendered;

a graphical user interface for receiving and generating signals associated with said open window object and said at least one other open window object, including a signal indicating that said open window object is to be returned to said original position; and

a processor for receiving said signal and drawing said open window object on said display at said original position using said information in said data structure.

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7. The system of claim 6, wherein said data structure also include information indicating a position of said at least one other open window object, and wherein said processor selectively draws said open window object in an overlapping relationship with said other window object based upon said position indicating information in said data structure.

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